

INSIDE BPM

Jim Rathlesberger, MPA
Executive Officer
California Board of Podiatric Medicine

Dr. Wrubel Re-elected

Meeting in LA City Hall, the BPM Board re-elected **Dr. Karen Wrubel** as President and voted in **Dr. Neil Mansdorf** as Vice President for 2011. Together with public member Kristina Dixon and Dr. Longobardi (shown below), along with public members Aleida Gerena-Rios and Raymond Cheng, this prepares BPM for coming challenges.

Transition

Department of Consumer Affairs Executive Gil DeLuna spoke for the outgoing Administration at BPM's October 15 public meeting. Governor Schwarzenegger may fill the one DPM vacancy on the Board before handing the keys to the Governor-Elect.

Jerry Brown reduced State paperwork as Governor before. Hopefully he will do it again. Internal bureaucratic reporting requirements for "control agencies" have taken on a growing life of their own over the last decade. Red tape helps accountability, but needs periodic review itself. Front-line agencies like BPM, limited in staff, with no reinforcements in sight, need to maximize time and effort for public services.



BPM Members with Gil DeLuna (center)

Sunset Review All Over Again

BPM will revise its *Strategic Plan* at our February 11 public meeting in San Jose. As always, our hands will be full doing what we do--licensing and enforcement. One of the few Boards without backlogs, and still the only Board with a Continuing Competence program, the Board Members have kept staff focused on our statutory mission.

In 2011, we are among those boards entering our third Sunset Review cycle. We'll prepare our report and the Business & Professions Committees will hold a hearing late in the year. Given the State's budget climate and forecasts, we may hear downsizing, merger and bureautizing calls.

Being Special Funded (self-supporting through licensing fees), and not receiving any General Fund appropriations, does not insulate boards from efforts to "blow up the boxes" on the organization chart. BPM believes a Board of Podiatric Medicine organized as we know it is good public policy in the public interest.

High Standards  Continuing Competence  Reducing medical errors  Preventing patient harm

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